

- cutting the steel sheet to obtain a steel sheet blank,
- stamping the steel sheet blank to obtain the part,
- generating an alloyed compound on a surface of the strip of rolled steel sheet, before the stamping, said alloyed compound ensuring protection against corrosion and steel decarburization, and providing a lubrication function, and

A1 - trimming excess material from the steel sheet required for the stamping operation.

2. (Amended) The process according to Claim 1, further comprising:

- after the steel blank is cut to obtain the steel sheet blank, subjecting the coated steel sheet blank to a rise in temperature in order to hot-form a part, thereby forming the alloyed compound at the surface of the part, said alloyed compound ensuring protection against corrosion and steel decarburization, and providing a lubrication function,

- cooling the stamped part to obtain such mechanical properties in the steel as high hardness and high surface hardness of the coating.

A2 4. (Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the alloyed compound is a zinc-iron or zinc-iron-aluminum based compound.

5. (Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the coated steel sheet is subjected to a rise in temperature in excess of 700°C prior to at least one of a stamping and heat treatment.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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A2 7/ 6. (Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the part obtained in particular by stamping is cooled so that it is quenched at a rate higher than the critical quenching rate.

Please add the following new claim:

A3 6/ 8. (New) The process according to claim 5, wherein the coated steel sheet is subjected to a rise in temperature in excess of 700°C in an oven and wherein an atmosphere of the oven is not controlled.
